

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: MICHAEL HORGAN; TIM ALLEN; MICHAEL GARDINER;  
TERRI McGILL  
Serial No.: 08/908,994  
Filed: 08/08/1997  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SECURE COMMUNICATIONS  
Group:  
Examiner:  
Docket No.: 36212.00006 (SYN5397.01A)

**Commissioner for Patents, USPTO  
Office of Petitions  
Crystal Plaza Four, Suite CP4-3C23  
2201 South Clark Place  
Arlington, VA 22202**

**DECLARATION OF DANICA R. REEDER IN SUPPORT OF RENEWED PETITION TO  
ACCEPT DECLARATION FROM JOINT INVENTORS SIGNING ON BEHALF OF AN  
INVENTOR WHO CANNOT BE REACHED  
37 CFR 1.47(a)**

Dear Sir:

1. I am a legal assistant with the law office of O'BANION & RITCHEY LLP, located at 400 Capitol Mall, Suite 1550, Sacramento, California 95814.

2. I have personal knowledge of the following facts and would be competent to testify thereto if called as a witness.

3. On or about November 18, 2003, I conducted an internet-wide search looking for Michael Gardiner. The search located multiple names of Michael Gardiner and it was not possible to identify any of them as the former CEO of ACL Datacom, Inc. and inventor on this application.

4. On November 19, 2003, I conducted a Lexis-Nexis public records search and located 69 Michael Gardiners. Again, it was not possible to identify any of them as the former CEO of ACL Datacom, Inc. and inventor on this application.

5. On November 19, 2003, I contacted our firm's collection agency. Using Mr. Gardiner's SSN, a trace search located the address of 10325 Juniper Creek Lane, Las Vegas 89415. No telephone number was available.

6. On November 19, 2003, I reviewed the findings from the Lexis-Nexis search but none of the Michael Gardiners found were located in Las Vegas.

7. I have been unable to locate Michael Gardiner's telephone number from any of the above-mentioned searches.

8. On November 21, 2003, I sent the letter in Exhibit A via Federal Express to Michael Gardiner at 10325 Juniper Creek Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89415 requesting that he respond by December 15, 2003. The Federal Express tracking information is also attached in Exhibit A.

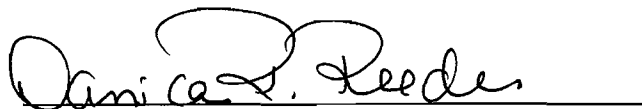
9. The Federal Express package was delivered and signed by Vilma Gardiner, later to be identified as Michael Gardiner's wife. No response as of this date has been received from Vilma Gardiner or Michael Gardiner.

10. On January 9, 2004, I contacted Vilma Gardiner by telephone at her place of business. During that conversation, I asked Vilma Gardiner if she knew if Michael Gardiner was going to return the documents. Vilma Gardiner was evasive during the conversation. When asked for Mr. Gardiner's telephone number, Vilma Gardiner would not provide one. Finally, Vilma Gardiner said that she would pass the message on to Michael Gardiner, and that she would call back with an answer that same day.

11. As of January 12, 2004, neither Vilma Gardiner nor Michael Gardiner have contacted me.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date: 1/12/2004

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Danica R. Reeder", written over a horizontal line.

Danica R. Reeder

From: John P. O'Banion (916)498-1010  
O'BANION & RITCHEY LLP  
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 1550  
Sacramento, CA, 95814

REVENUE BARCODE



FedEx.

To: Michael Gardiner (916)498-1010

10325 Juniper Creek Lane

Las Vegas, NV, 89415

SHIP DATE: 22NOV03  
WEIGHT: 1 LBS

Ref:



DELIVERY ADDRESS BARCODE (FEDEX-EDR)

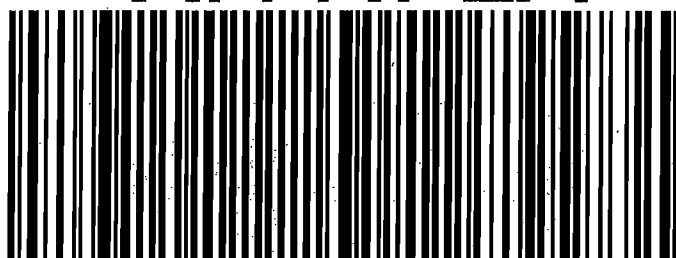
TRK # 7925 1701 3650

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**Tracking number** 792517013650  
**Signed for by** V.ILMA GARDINER  
**Ship date** Nov 21, 2003  
**Delivery date/Time** Nov 26, 2003 11:44 am

**Delivered to**  
**Delivery location**  
**Service type**

**Recipient**  
 HAWTHORNE NV  
 Priority Pak

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Date/Time	Status	Location	Comments
Nov 26, 2003 11:44 am	Delivered	HAWTHORNE NV	No signature required - release waiver on file
11:44 am	Delivered	HAWTHORNE NV	No signature required - release waiver on file
8:30 am	On FedEx vehicle for delivery	NORTH LAS VEGAS NV	
Nov 25, 2003 5:15 pm	Package status	NORTH LAS VEGAS NV	Package in FedEx location
10:10 am	Delivery attempt	HAWTHORNE NV	Customer not available or Business closed
8:28 am	On FedEx vehicle for delivery	NORTH LAS VEGAS NV	
7:27 am	Arrived at FedEx Destination Location	NORTH LAS VEGAS NV	
6:59 am	Left FedEx Ramp	LAS VEGAS NV	
4:45 am	Arrived at FedEx Ramp	LAS VEGAS NV	
2:57 am	Left FedEx Sort Facility	OAKLAND CA	
12:04 am	Arrived at Sort Facility	OAKLAND CA	
Nov 24, 2003 11:00 pm	Left FedEx Origin Location	OAKLAND CA	
7:23 pm	Left FedEx Origin Location	RENO NV	

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**O'BANION & RITCHEY** LLP  
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John P. O'Banion  
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---  
Internet  
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November 21, 2003

Mr. Michael Gardiner  
10325 Juniper Creek Lane  
Las Vegas, NV 89415

**VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Re: U.S. Patent Application  
METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SECURE COMMUNICATIONS  
Inventors: Michael J. Horgan; Tim Allen; Michael Gardiner; Terri McGill  
Ser. No.: 08/908,994  
Filed: August 8, 1997  
Our File: SYN5397.01A

Dear Mr. Gardiner:

**URGENT - TIME SENSITIVE TRANSMITTAL**

I am enclosing the following documents for you to sign in connection with this patent application:

Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney

We have been attempting to locate you for some time now, and just recently located this address. Enclosed please find a copy of a letter that we sent to you in Hong Kong last May.

Please note that the Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney requires you to certify that you have read the application, and that you believe that you are an inventor of the subject

*EXHIBIT A*

O'BANION & RITCHEY LLP

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November 21, 2003

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matter of the application and what is claimed. *Therefore, please read the enclosed patent application completely prior to signing this document.*

For your convenience, we have enclosed a Federal Express return envelope. Thank you again for your assistance with the prosecution of this application, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

O'BANION & RITCHEY LLP



John P. O'Banion

Enclosure

cc: Michael J. Horgan